

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Listing of the Claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sorting a plurality of items by destination, the method comprising:

defining a number of locations, where each location is a position for a container;

assigning each location a speed of loading rating;

creating a scheme of destinations;

reading a destination code from each of the plurality of items;

determining whether the destination code from one of the plurality of items is assigned a location;

if the destination code is assigned a location, loading the one of plurality of items [[item]] in a container at the assigned location;

if the destination code is not assigned a location, determining whether to assign the unassigned destination code a location based on whether the unassigned destination code is in the scheme of destinations, a [[the]] projected or historical number of items having a [[the]] same destination, and the speed of loading rating for each location.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

recirculating an item when a determination is made not to assign the unassigned destination code a location.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

rejecting an item when a determination is made not to assign the unassigned destination code a location.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein determining whether to assign the unassigned destination code is further based on reviewing a set of restrictions.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the set of restrictions includes a [[the]] type of container in which items are loaded.

6. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the set of restrictions includes a work zone in which containers for items are located.
7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the set of restrictions includes a limit on the number of locations to be assigned to any one destination.
8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising tracking an amount ~~the number~~ of items in recirculation.
- 9-25. (Canceled)